

AGREEMENT

between

the Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing

and

the Quality and Standards Authority of Ethiopia

The Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing (the SOSMT) and the Quality and Standards Authority of Ethiopia (QSAE) (hereinafter referred to as "Parties") taking into account the interest in the development of cooperation in the field of standardization, conformity assessment, metrology and quality, with the purpose of creating conditions necessary for strengthening of mutually advantageous economic and technical co-operation have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Cooperation between the Parties in the field of standardization, conformity assessment, metrology and quality is carried out according to national legislation of both Parties.

The influence of this Agreement extends on the products manufactured on the territory of the Slovak Republic and Ethiopia.

Article 2

The Parties, to the extent of their powers approved by the national legislation, will co-operate in the following directions:

(1) Standardization:

Harmonization of standards and other normative documents which relate to mutual supplies;

(2) Conformity assessment

- a. determination of conditions and methods of recognition of the results of works on conformity assessment of the products;
- b. assistance in cooperation between notified or authorized bodies for certification on mutually beneficial basis, according to the lists which the Parties will exchange and also will update ,
- c. assistance in signing the agreements between the notified or authorized bodies in the field of mutual recognition of the results of works on conformity assessment,
- d. assistance for infrastructure development in the areas of testing and metrology

(3) Metrology

- a. organization of works on maintenance of the unity of measurements,
- b. development, application and comparison of national standards of units of physical values,
- c. development and application of standard samples of substances and materials.

(4) Quality

Implementation and certification of quality management systems and environmental management systems in accordance to international standards of the series ISO 9000 and ISO 14000.

Article 3

The Parties agreed to exchange:

- (1) normative and legal acts in the field of standardization, conformity assessment, metrology and quality,
- (2) the list of groups of products which enter into legislatively adjustable sphere and which are subject to assessing the conformity by the third Party.
- (3) expertise in the field of standardization, conformity assessment, metrology and quality.

Article 4

The Parties undertake to provide confidentiality of documentation and information obtained within the framework of this Agreement. Confidential documentation and information can be transferred to the third Party exclusively under the written approval of the Party which has given them. Information on negotiations and their results can be issued only after its discussion and approval by the Parties.

Article 5

The Parties will coordinate their activities at the support of offers and initiatives within the framework of their membership in international organizations on standardization, metrology, conformity assessment and quality.

Article 6

Unless otherwise requested or agreed to, the Parties shall review the results and consequences of their cooperation under this Agreement every year to make sure that it is fulfilling its objectives and is working well. The joint review will be hosted by the Parties alternatively.

Article 7

This Agreement does not affect the rights and duties following from the agreements concluded with other Parties.

Article 8

Vexed questions connected with interpretation and realization of this Agreement is solved by consultations and negotiations. Thus the Parties are guided by positions of this Agreement.

Article 9

This Agreement is concluded for an indefinite period of time and shall enter into force on the date of its signing.

Under the preliminary arrangement of the Parties, changes and additions to the Agreement can be made by signing the corresponding report which will be the essential part of the Agreement from the date of its signing.

Each of the Parties can denounce this Agreement in writing, having notified the other Party about its intentions. The effect of this Agreements ends in 6 months from the date of the reception by the other Party of such a notification.

Done in Bratislava on 2.6.2006 in two copies, one each in the Slovak and English languages and all the texts are equally authentic. In case of occurrence of disagreements in interpretation of positions of this Agreement the English text shall prevail.

For

The Slovak Office of Standards,
Metrology and Testing

For

The Quality and Standards
Authority of Ethiopia

Mr. Arpád Gonda
The President

Mr. Mesai Girma
Director General